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ON SUNDAY



NOP: 2 point deficit sets Major on the warpath

JOHN MAJOR will relaunch the Tory election offensive today after dramatically falling behind Labour.

An exclusive NOP poll for The Mail on Sunday reveals that the Tories have slipped two points behind Labour.

Mr Major will call on Margaret Thatcher to help him to turn the tables. They will appear, with the entire Cabinet, on the same platform in London to revitalise the

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flagging Tory campaign. Our survey, and several other unfavourable opinion polls, led Tory chiefs to convene crisis talks last night to stem a collapse in party morale.

A huge rethink of the campaign is now

under way after it had been widely criticised for being passive and confused.

Tory strategists believed a slow start against Neil Kinnock would have been reversed by today. However, NOP shows Labour on 41 per cent (up one point since last week), Tories on 39 per cent (down two per cent) and Liberal Democrats unchanged on 15 per cent. Other parties were five per cent (up one per cent). The

figures represent a swing of 6½ per cent against the Tories since 1987, which would leave Labour the largest single party in a hung Parliament, just short of an overall majority.

The NOP result, reflected in other polls published today, means the Tories have failed to win the battle on tax, a mainstay of their campaign. Instead, NOP reveals

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ALONE WITH MOTHER

How it will be
for princesses